

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). The Government of India has not received a request from the Government of NCT of Delhi in this regard. Moreover, the cash balances of the Government of NCT of Delhi form part of the general cash balance of Government of India. Till such time as the cash balance of NCT of Delhi is separated, the Government of NCT of Delhi does not require to borrow/take overdraft directly from the RBI.

[Translation]

Transfer of Property

2634. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received information about irregularities being committed due to facility of transfer of property in any part of the country available at four metropolitan cities;

(b) if so, whether amendment in the Central Act is being proposed; and

(c) if so, the time by which it is proposed to be done?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c). No specific information in this regard has been received by the Government. However, a proposal for deletion of section 30(2) of the Registration Act, 1908 is under consideration. Views/comments of the State Governments/Union Territories administration have been invited on the proposal. A final decision on the proposal would be taken after receipt of such views. As such, it is not possible to indicate at this stage the time by which the said decision would be taken.

[English]

Smuggling of Drugs

2635. SHRI PINAKI MISRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a huge quantity of heroin and other narcotics have been seized by airport authorities and other enforcement authorities in different parts of the country during the last six months;

(b) if so, the detail of the seizure;

(c) whether these seizures indicate an up-trend in the incidence of smuggling of narcotics, as compared to that in the corresponding period (April-June) in 1995 and 1994; and

(d) the steps taken to curb and prevent smuggling of narcotics and psychotropic drugs?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. As per information available large quantity of various drugs have been seized in different parts of the country during January to June, 1996. Their details are as given below :

January to June, 1996 (Provisional)

	Quantity in KG	No. of Cases
Heroin	672	751
Opium	1064	191
Ganja	19349	1386
Hashish	4579	534
Methaqualone	5	2

(c) Drug trafficking is a clandestine activity and, therefore, on the basis of seizure figures it cannot be said definitely whether it is increasing or decreasing during any given period. The quantity of narcotic drugs seized during April to June of 1994 and 1995 are given as under :-

Quantity in KG

	(April - June)	
	1994	1995
Heroin	163	362
Opium	381	558
Ganja	59151	20524
Hashish	1171	799
Methaqualone	3469	7179

(d) The enforcement agencies have been instructed to maintain the utmost vigil and step up enforcement efforts under the provisions contained in NDPS Act.

Agricultural Lending

2636. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the share of agricultural lending by banks has considerably declined in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the corrective measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). All Scheduled Commercial Banks (except foreign banks) are required to grant at least 18% of net